

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) Spunbond fleece of polymer fibers, characterized by the fact that
 - the polymer fibers have a non-circular cross section with a trilobal, multilobal, flat, oval, Z-form, S-form or keyhole form fiber cross section,
 - the polymer fibers have a low fiber titer between 0.5 and 5 dtex,
 - the polymer fibers have preferred directions in the spunbond fleece and are laid in a preferred direction perpendicular to the Z-direction and in the machine direction and/or transverse to the machine direction, and
 - the spunbond fleece has a high optical opacity measured as the reduction of the light permeability in the range from 5 to 20%, relative to the weight per unit area, or the spunbond fleece has a high and physical opacity measured as air permeability in the range from $6 \cdot 10^2$ l/m² sec to $9 \cdot 10^3$ l/m² sec, relative to the weight per unit area or the spunbond fleece has a combination of said high optical opacity and of said high physical opacity, and
 - the spunbond fleece has a with a low weight per unit area of between 7 g/m² and 20 g/m².
2. (Cancelled)
3. Spunbond fleece according to claim 1, characterized by the fact that the polymer fibers have fiber titers in the range of ~~0.5 dtex to 5 dtex, preferably~~ between 1.4 dtex and 3.5 dtex.
4. Spunbond fleece according to claim 1, characterized by the fact that the polymer fibers are in a preferred direction along and transverse to the machine direction.
5. Spunbond fleece according to claim 1, characterized by the fact that the optical opacity, measured as the reduction of the light permeability, lies in the range of ~~5 to 20%,~~

preferably 6–9%, relative to the weight per unit area.

6. Spunbond fleece according to claim 1, characterized by the fact that it has weights per unit area between 7 g/m^2 and 50 g/m^2 , preferably 10 g/m^2 to 20 g/m^2 .

7. Spunbond fleece according to claim 1, characterized by the fact that the physical opacity relative to the weight per unit area, measured as sieve residue, lies in the range of 75% to 99%, preferably between 90% and 95%.

8. Spunbond fleece according to claim 1, characterized by the fact that the physical opacity relative to the weight per unit area, measured as air permeability, lies in the range of $6\cdot 10^3\text{ l/m}^2\text{ sec}$ to $9\cdot 10^3\text{ l/m}^2\text{ sec}$, preferably between $7\cdot 10^3\text{ l/m}^2\text{ sec}$ and $8\cdot 10^3\text{ l/m}^2\text{ sec}$.

9. Spunbond fleece according to claim 1, characterized by the fact that the polymer fibers consist of polyolefins, PA, or polyester, preferably polypropylene.

10. Spunbond fleece according to claim 1, characterized by the fact that the fleece is coated with an adhesive.

11. Spunbond fleece according to claim 10, characterized by the fact that the adhesive has penetrated into the fleece without going through it ~~has a low penetration of adhesive~~.

12. Spunbond fleece according to claim 10, characterized by the fact that in the temperature range between 140° C - 160° C the adhesive has dynamic viscosities in the range of 3000 mPas to 33000 mPas, preferably 4000 mPas to 6000 mPas.

13. Spunbond fleece according to claim 10, characterized by the fact that the portion of adhesive per m^2 of spunbond fleece lies between 0.5 g and 10 g, ~~preferably between 3 g and 6 g~~.

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14. Spunbond fleece according to claim 1, characterized by the fact that ~~additives,~~
~~preferably~~ inorganic salts, are used.

15. Spunbond fleece according to claim 13, characterized by the fact that titanium
oxides and/or calcium carbonates between 0.1 and 5% by weight, ~~preferably between 0.2 and~~
~~0.7% by weight,~~ are used as additives.

16. ~~Use of the spunbond fleece in a~~ A hygiene product comprising the spunbond
fleece of claim 1.

17. ~~Use of the spunbond fleece in a~~ A filter material comprising the spunbond fleece
of claim 1.

18. ~~Use of the spunbond fleece in a~~ A household cloth comprising the spunbond
fleece of claim 1.